State of Alaska Department of

Transportation and Public Facilities

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NEWS RELEASE



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Alaska's Marine Highway Winter Bookings Open Wednesday

Alaska Marine Highway winter reservations will open Wednesday morning, August 28 for sailings from October 1, 2002 through April 30, 2003. "Drivers accompanying driveable vehicles will again go free, and children <u>four</u> and under will now travel free throughout the months covered by this schedule," said George Capacci, General Manager of the System. "Fares for other travel during the Fall/Winter/Spring season will remain unchanged from Summer 2002 rates."

"Watch for upcoming winter travel specials to be announced in coming weeks," continued Capacci. "We continue to focus on raising ridership during the winter months, so Alaskans can travel less expensively when they're more likely to use the System – October through April."

In order to accommodate Wednesday's opening, the Fall-Winter-Spring, 2002/03 schedule is currently available online at www.alaska.gov/ferry. By the end of September, the published schedule will be available by mail (or pick up at terminals or reservations offices throughout the state, in Prince Rupert, BC and Bellingham, WA).

The Winter 2002/03 schedule will feature the communities served by the system and ferry service, such as:

- Weekly Friday departures from Bellingham and departures from Prince Rupert twice weekly serving Southeast Alaska.
- November April the M/V Kennicott will serve Southeast Alaska, Kenai Peninsula and Kodiak Island. Twice-monthly Cross Gulf round trips are scheduled during those months.
- Two Kodiak to the Aleutian Chain trips on October 2, 2002 and April 16, 2003.

(more)

Copies of the schedule can be ordered and reservations made by internet at www.alaska.gov/ferry or by calling the System's Reservations Call Center: 1-800-642-0066 or 907-465-3941 or your local terminal or reservations office. Call Center service is available Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ADT. Reservations may be requested on the AMHS web site or made at AMHS terminals and ticket offices during the normal business hours for those locations. Fax requests may be submitted to (907) 277-4829 in Anchorage.

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